

HAMPTON

CITY PAGE

JULY 18

YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK

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We work together Hampton named All-America City

The All-America City Award is the nation's oldest and most prestigious award for civic excellence. The last time a city in our region was bestowed with such an honor was in 1976.

What's important about the All-America City Award is that it is presented to communities for their outstanding teamwork to solve community challenges — teamwork between city government and the people of Hampton.

Does that mean we are a perfect city? Not by any means.

But what we have are parents and other adults going out of their way to support youth initiatives, and youth responding with actions of their own.

We have city departments' interaction with citizens to make neighborhoods better.

We have businesses that provide resources to strengthen our efforts to make families stronger.

We have nonprofits that lend their expertise to improve our citizens' quality of life.

And we have thousands of citizens volunteering in a variety of ways, to make Hampton an increasingly better place to live.

The All-America City designation is a good time to pause and reflect. City government will go forth and remind our citizens that, yes, we are special ... we do work well together ... we do achieve results ... and we have much for which we can be proud.

Take a moment to pat yourselves on the back, Hampton citizens. You've been named an All-America City — and you deserve it!

Stay tuned for more about what makes Hampton an All-America City. Watch City Page and The City Channel TV-47 for upcoming stories on our community working together.



City 1-Stop saves time

City 1-Stop is your one stop for some city services and it's conveniently located at Coliseum Mall in Hampton. Stop by to purchase city vehicle decals, pay real estate property taxes, or obtain yard sale permits.

City 1-Stop is a satellite office for Commissioner of the Revenue and Treasurer and it offers convenience and extended hours to better serve you. Some building permits also are available at the office.

Open

Monday to

Friday, 11 a.m.

to 6 p.m., and

Saturday 10

a.m. to 1 p.m.,

City 1-Stop

can be reached by telephone at 825-4761.



New tenants at Langley Square

Two companies have chosen one central location to manage their business operations in Hampton. The city of Hampton announced yesterday that Biomat USA, Inc., and Eagle Aeronautics will move into the former Ames retail space in Langley Square Shopping Center on Mercury Boulevard this September.



Biomat USA is a Los Angeles based healthcare company and subsidiary of Instituto Grifol, located in Barcelona Spain. The company plans to locate a plasma donor center and create 25 new jobs and invest \$1.4 million into their new Hampton location. Biomat is the fourth largest collector of human blood products in the world.

Eagle Aeronautics, Inc., is an aerospace engineering consulting firm currently located in Hampton's Langley Research and Development Park. The company is a major contractor to the government and industry including NASA Langley Research Center.

The Hampton Department of Economic Development worked with the Peninsula Alliance for Economic Development (PAED) to attract Biomat USA, which was originally contacted during a PAED marketing trip to California last December. Eagle Aeronautics needs for a new location were identified on a routine business retention call conducted by city economic development staff.

Shopping Center Revitalization Program

Langley Square Shopping Center, one of the city's oldest shopping centers, was revitalized in 1999 and became "the poster child" for the Shopping Center Revitalization Program.

Through the city's Retail Development Department, the Shopping Center Revitalization Program was funded in 2000 and provides incentives to shopping center owners to encourage revitalization.

Owner of the Langley Square Shopping Center, John Katsias, has been working with the city to identify new, innovative uses for the former Ames building. The former Ames space is one of the last remaining vacancies and encompasses 46,588 square feet. The space will be divided to include space for Eagle Aeronautics, Biomat USA, two additional small shops and warehouse space.

"The Katsias Company made a tremendous investment in Hampton before the Shopping Center Revitalization Program was even funded," said Shelly Weidenhamer, development projects manager, Hampton Retail Development. "We were able to bring these programs together to create new jobs, expand an existing business and continue our revitalization efforts."

Center receives DC-9 for new exhibit

A new gallery will open at the Virginia Air & Space Center next summer. And, it's going to have a really big exhibit — a DC-9 aircraft!

AirTran Airways, a subsidiary of AirTran Holdings, Inc., recently announced a partnership with the center which will consist of the donation of AirTran Airways' retiring Ship 903, a McDonnell Douglas DC-9,

to be used in the Center's Aviation Exhibit Hall.

"We are thrilled to be the only museum in the country to display an AirTran Airways' DC-9," said Executive Director/ CEO of the Virginia Air & Space Center Todd Bridgford. "It will be the centerpiece of our new Aviation Exhibit Hall, which will provide a unique environment for our visitors to explore aviation. Visitors will be able to tour the plane that features interactive exhibits and showcases NASA's glass cockpit technology."

The new 15,000 square foot Aviation Exhibit Hall is one of the most exciting

expansions in the center's history. The gallery's opening coincides with the historic centennial anniversary of the Wright Brothers' first flight. Visitors will enjoy hands-on experience as they learn about simulated flight, airplane propulsion systems, air transport systems and turbofan engines.

Visitors to the new exhibit will be able to "wing walk" on a recreated Jenny, see a replica of the Wright Flyer, take off and land on a US Navy carrier, ride in a World War II bomber, become an air traffic controller, build an airplane, sit inside a F-22 or test their flying skills with a variety of simulators.

As the official visitor center for NASA Langley Research Center, the Virginia Air & Space Center is a leading source for informal science education and a place where families can explore the realms of aviation, space and science through interactive exhibits and an IMAX Theater. Conveniently located in Downtown Hampton, the center serves more than 400,000 admissions a year.



What's the latest on Bass Pro?

Last month Hampton City Council gave a green light to proceed with finalizing a deal with The Cordish Co. to bring Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World, a leading interactive retailer, to serve as an anchor tenant at The Power Plant of Hampton Roads site. Located at the juncture of I-64 and Mercury Blvd., The Power Plant will be a lifestyle, retail-entertainment center designed to bring new tax dollars to Hampton. The Cordish Co. is nationally-renowned for its highly successful high-quality retail and entertainment projects.

A lease and legal documents are in the process of being finalized. The \$23 million deal calls for funding from The Cordish Co., Bass Pro, and the city. This breaks down as follows: Cordish, 61 percent; city, 32 percent; and Bass Pro, 7 percent.

The Bass Pro facility would encompass 110,000 square feet. In addition, Bass Pro is proposing to build a 10,000-square-foot themed restaurant overlooking the lake at The Power Plant site. The lake would be used as a focal point for boating and fishing demonstrations.

Bass Pro sales for Hampton, based on comparable stores nationwide, are projected

to include \$42 million to \$53 million in in-store sales (including the restaurant), and another \$45 million to \$57 million generated to other Hampton businesses. City staff is using the lower figures in the range for financial projections.

About 230 employees would be needed year round at the Hampton store and some seasonal employees would be added.

City consultants, Economics Research Associates, project more than 1.5 million to 2 million visitors a year to Bass Pro at The Power Plant. About 90 percent of visitors will be from outside of Hampton. Fifteen percent are from visitors beyond 100 miles who would spend the night at a local hotel.

ERA projections show Bass Pro annually contributing between \$3.2 million and \$4 million in net new tax dollars to the city. This includes in-store sales as well as sales to Bass Pro visitors to Hampton who will also spend money in other parts of the city.



Calendar

JULY 19, 26

Storytelling in the Park

Take an afternoon break and enjoy the sights and sounds at Mill Point Park. Every Friday the park will come alive with puppets, storytellers and ballerinas. Free, 12:30-1:15 p.m. Refreshments available for purchase. Hampton Parks & Recreation, 727-8314 or visit www.hampton.gov/parks.



JULY 19

Family Fun Series

Relive the wonderful Fables of the fabled Aesop. Theatre IV brings The Boy Who Cried Wolf, The Tortoise and the Hare and many of the other time honored gems to delightful and hilarious life in this buoyant musical adventure. Theatre IV, based in Richmond, is one of the leading children's theatre companies in the Nation - performing for millions of people every year. The American Theatre, 2 p.m., 722-ARTS, www.hampton.gov/arts.

JULY 21, 28

Big Bands at Buckroe

Enjoy the sounds of the Big Band era and dance under the stars! Free Admission. Refreshments available for purchase. Buckroe Beach, 6 - 8 p.m. Hampton Parks & Recreation, 727-1978.



JULY 23, 30

Pomoco Family Movie Series

Join moviegoers and spread your blankets at Buckroe Beach for Movie Night. Each Tuesday night entertainment starts at 7 p.m., movies start at sunset. Buckroe Beach. Refreshments available for purchase. Free Admission - Parking fees. Hampton Parks & Recreation, 727-8311.

JULY 23

Wetlands Board

Regular meeting, 5 p.m., Council Chambers, City Hall, 727-6140.



JULY 24

City Council

Regular meeting, 7:30 p.m., Council Chambers, City Hall, 727-6315. **Mayor Locke will give the annual State of the City Address at this meeting.** Agendas on Web site: hampton.gov/council. Meetings broadcast live; re-broadcasts July 25 at 10 a.m., and July 27 at 3 p.m. on The City Channel TV-47.

JULY 27

Robbin Thompson

Richmond-based popular music legend,



Robbin Thompson sails down the Chesapeake to give another solo concert at The American Theatre. In his almost 30 years in the business, Thompson has appeared on stage with the likes of Bob Dylan, Crosby, Stills and Nash, Bonnie Raitt,

Leon Russell and many others. Don't miss this one! The American Theatre, 8 p.m., 722-ARTS, www.hampton.gov/arts.

For more events, go to www.hampton.gov and click "calendar."



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